



**PAROLEE SERVICES NETWORK  
REGIONAL MEETING  
Kern County Mental Health  
3300 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield  
April 14, 2010**

**PRESENT:**

Felicia Skaggs – KCMH Gate Team  
Rodney Armstrong – DAPO  
Lily Alvarez – KCMH SA Admin

Audrey Presley – KCMH Gate Team  
Bill Brooks – College Community Services  
Cindy Coe – KCMH SA Admin

**SUMMARY MINUTES:**

1. **Introductions:** Deferred.
2. **Approval of January 13, 2010 meeting minutes:** Motions by Presley / Skaggs to approve as submitted; approved all ayes.
3. **Follow-up items:**
  - A. Page 1, item 3A: Utilizing PSN funds – Ms. Presley is now working with agents in both Parole buildings. Ms. Skaggs reported there are two female clients in Ridgecrest; Mr. Brooks reported one client in Lake Isabella, and one in Mojave.

Ms. Alvarez questioned whether Mr. Armstrong had seen any movement in referring to treatment under PSN in lieu of Prop 36. Mr. Armstrong felt there were eligible parolees, but the available pool of parolees has gone down due to non-revocable parole, however should be more utilized. Ms. Presley confirmed PSN has been more utilized and has seen an increase.
  - B. Page 2, item 6A: Resource list for parolees – Ms. Alvarez questioned whether there was a list of available referrals for those parolees who were neither PSN or Prop 36, but could benefit from treatment. Ms. Skaggs responded there had been no decision made whether to start the process, and issues such as how to implement and capacity had not been discussed. Mr. Armstrong indicated the policy for referral is on a case-by-case basis for non-revocable parolees, as they can be referred to existing services and programs for a limited time. Ms. Alvarez indicated there are clients coming through the Gate Team, felony probationers, who are not Prop 36 and are not eligible for any other kind of funding resources. The Gate Team created a list of providers they give to these clients, and it is then up to the provider to conduct a financial assessment for the client to pay for their treatment; Ms. Presley could make the same list available to parolees.



Ms. Skaggs indicated Ms. Presley will screen the clients and give them resources, they would be a self-pay client and the provider would determine their cost for treatment based on a sliding scale fee. Mr. Armstrong agreed this process could be done.

- C. Page 3, item 8A: PSN Request for Proposals – Ms. Alvarez reported the Request for Proposals (RFP) process has been completed. A budget is not yet complete, so treatment slots are not known at this time. Services will continue in Ridgecrest and Lake Isabella. It is hoped men's beds can be maintained, there is a possibility of adding a female bed, Level 2 will be eliminated, and expansion of metropolitan Bakersfield providers serving PSN clients is planned. Mr. Brooks questioned the status of their bid for services in Mojave, Taft and Tehachapi; Ms. Alvarez asked that the issue be addressed in their upcoming contract negotiation meeting.

4. **State ADP Issues:** Not present.

5. **State CDCR Issues:** Not present.

6. **Kern County Parole Issues:** Mr. Armstrong had no additional report.

7. **Provider Issues:**

- A. College Community Services: Mr. Brooks had no additional report.
- B. Mental Health: Ms. Skaggs nor Ms. Presley had additional report items.
- C. WestCare: Not present.

8. **Mental Health Issues:**

- A. Ms. Alvarez announced there is a new data system CDCR created. The new system will not change the local data collection or elements, rather changes the method by which data is sent.
- B. Ms. Alvarez reported budgets will be severely impacted for Fiscal Year 2010-11. Mr. Armstrong reported their deficit is about \$1 billion. Ms. Alvarez indicated priorities are to maintain gatekeeping functions and services in regional clinics; there will be reductions made to metropolitan services, some residential capacity will be lost, outpatient capacity will be lost, and some Levels of Care will be lost. Mr. Armstrong reported they do not anticipate layoffs, but the 15% pay cut will remain and there were cuts to programming and DARS.
- C. Mr. Armstrong offered information on early releases and non-revocable parole. The population for early releases is not yet known, the legislation wants to expand good time credits which will let parolees out early. Non-revocable parolees will be anyone who is not a violent or serious offender under certain penal codes, not a registered sex offender or arsonist, or have not picked up a serious rules violation in prison. There is a new CSRA (California Static Risk Assessment), which will rate from 1-5; if they are not a 3

(high property), 4 (high drug), or 5 (high violence), they are eligible for a non-revocable release and do not report to parole.

Ms. Alvarez indicated she had heard reports of estimates that 42-45,000 would be released. Mr. Armstrong responded, when the state first implemented they were just going to do certain people, but they are now discussing adding cases that are not a violent offense per the Penal Code, such as spousal abuse or domestic violence, battery on a peace officer, or child endangerment. Ms. Alvarez questioned whether Kern County had had early releases already; Mr. Armstrong responded they have had quite a few court walk-overs, but they are not just letting people out early, rather recalculating earning credits. Ms. Presley estimated she has seen 4-6 early release cases that are currently in the program.

Ms. Presley questioned funding for a specific case. The female was referred to Prop 36, but if they are on non-revocable the funding stops. Mr. Armstrong confirmed those on non-revocable parole are not seen and not put in their database, if they receive a file it is to be kept for a year. Members discussed the need to identify when Ms. Presley would use Mental Health's provider list with silos of funding, or when a client would not be eligible for funding.

- D. Ms. Skaggs reported she is having difficulty receiving PSN reporting data from the College Community Services Ridgecrest clinic. The reports are needed by the 5<sup>th</sup> of every month, even if there is nothing to report, the form is still needed. Mr. Brooks questioned whether this was a recent or ongoing problem; Ms. Skaggs indicated the last 3-4 months have been an issue. Mr. Brooks agreed to look into the matter.
- E. Ms. Skaggs questioned whether Parole could add "non-revocable" to their referral form. Mr. Armstrong agreed it could be added when needed; the cases they have now are dropping off, and the ones coming from prison will not have any paperwork.

**9. Next meeting July 14, 2010, at Kern County Mental Health Administration.**

LA:cc

Attachments to original minutes:

None